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Examiner: Andrew M. Gilbert
Title: NEEDLELESS PORT (as amended)
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REMARKS

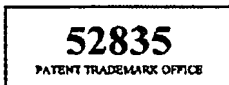
Favorable reconsideration is requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended editorially. The limitation in claim 1 concerning the slit originating at the outer end face of the main body is supported by for example page 9, lines 11-16 and Figure 2. The limitation in claim 1 concerning the slit extending in the same direction as the length direction so as to have a predetermined depth from the outer-end face of the main body is supported by for example page 3, line 36 to page 4, line 1 and Figure 2. The limitation in claim 1 concerning the bore extending from the slit to the inner-end face of the main body prior to insertion of the insertion member is supported by for example Figure 2 and page 4, lines 1-3. The limitation in claim 2 concerning the unpenetrated region originating at the outer end face of the main body so as to have a predetermined depth is supported by for example page 4, lines 15-16. The limitation in claim 2 concerning the bore extending from the unpenetrated region to the inner-end face of the main body prior to insertion of the insertion member is supported by for example page 4, lines 12-20 and Figure 2. Claims 1-22 remain pending in the application.

Further to the remarks in our Response filed August 7, 2007, claim 1 has been clarified to define the slit as originating at the outer end face of the main body and extending in a predetermined depth towards the inner-end face. Claim 1 also has been clarified to require the bore to extend from the slit to an inner-end face of the main body prior to insertion of an insertion member. Claim 2 has been clarified to define the unpenetrated region as originating at the outer end face of the main body. Claim 2 also has been clarified to require the bore to extend from the unpenetrated region to the inner-end face of the main body prior to insertion of an insertion member.

Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

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In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Douglas P. Mueller, Reg. No. 30,300, at (612) 455-3804.



Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 31, 2007

By: 

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DPM/ym